

by the Reform school, and secure the military institute property for the Reform school, I shall be glad to act with you in accomplishing the purpose. The major portion of the land now devoted to an unprofitable attempt at farming, might then be sold; the heavy tax now paid for water for irrigation would be materially decreased, as well as would other incidental expenses. I believe the change would be of permanent advantage to the State, and will reduce the burdens of the Reform school to a minimum.

The State Insane Asylum, located at Provo, in Utah county, consists of a tract of land of about 200 acres, upon which has been erected a thoroughly modern and well-equipped asylum, which has cost the Territory for grounds, buildings, furniture and machinery, to November 30, 1894, \$408,073.91.

The number of patients confined in the asylum at present is 217, of which 110 are males and 107 females. It is estimated that the capacity of the asylum as at present constructed is 250 patients, and that portion of the asylum called the administration building, wherein the medical superintendent, stewards, guards and attendants have their quarters, is ample for a much greater patient capacity. The increase in the permanent population of the asylum during the past year was eight; patients admitted, sixty-one; died, fifteen; discharged, thirty-eight. The average attendance (daily) of the patients was 214. The average cost of care and treatment per capita per diem was 38½ cents. It is stated by the medical superintendent that this is the actual cash expense for the care and treatment account, and that it is considerably lower than for any previous year. The increased number of patients treated, the decreased cost of supplies, the increased yield from the farm, garden, orchard and dairy, and the practice of strict economy, have all been factors in bringing about this reduction.

The sanitary condition of the buildings and the general bodily health of the patients have been good. There has been no epidemic or contagious sickness of any kind during the year.

The estimate of the Territorial board for the ensuing year, for which appropriation is asked is as follows:

For care and treatment of 225 patients at \$1.50 per capita per week.....	\$42,750
For ice house.....	1,000
Additional furniture for convalescent wards.....	500
Keeping in repairs asylum buildings, expenses of board and other necessary expenses.....	8,000
Total.....	\$52,250

While it may be possible by the exercise of further economy to reduce these expenses below the estimate, I recommend the appropriation of \$50,000 for the maintenance of the asylum for the ensuing year.

Your attention is respectfully invited to the difficulties the board has had to contend with, and the extra expense involved in being unable to cash auditor's warrants issued to them. It will be noted that the item of interest during the past two years, necessitated through inability to realize upon the warrants, has cost the institution \$5,278.93. It will be my pleasure to treat upon this subject in the special message which it is my intention to present at a future date.

The Constitution locates the school for the deaf and dumb and school for the blind in the county of Weber, and orders the transfer of the property of the school for the deaf, heretofore conducted as a department of the University of Utah, to the school to be located in said county.

The appropriation made for the school for the deaf by the last Legislature for two years, from January 1, 1894, is exhausted. The University regents, under whose management the school has been conducted, contemplated closing the school on January 1st, but the superintendent of the school, to obviate such a calamity, offered to bear the expenses of the school until the present Legislature could take action, and the offer was accepted. The school continues under that arrangement. It will be necessary to make immediate provision for the expenses of the school to the end of the school year.

It will be necessary to provide a permanent location for the school for the deaf and dumb and the school for the blind in Weber county, and provide for moving the property of the school. Proper legislation should be passed also providing for the control and supervision of these schools under the direction of the State board of education. Unless the arrangements described in another part of this message can be economically effected, by which the school for the deaf and dumb, and school for the blind may be located in the buildings now used for the Reform school, and the Reform school located at some other point, it is my judgment that these schools should wait until the State can better afford to build.

Until such time as the State may be able to erect its capitol, the grounds, which are already laid out and surrounded by a neat iron fence, should be improved, and the trees and shrubs cared for. I recommend a small appropriation for this purpose covering the actual cost of caring for the grounds, and that the capitol commission be abolished, at least until actual building shall begin.

The only business to which this society has devoted itself for many years has been the holding of annual (or biennial) fairs, although its charter and the various amendments thereto authorize the collection of statistics. By the provisions of an act of the Assembly of March 10, 1892, a bureau of statistics was created, and the statistician was authorized to collect, triennially, the same or similar statistical data to that which the society is authorized to collect. There would be a conflict of authority here, except that the statistician is provided with an appropriation to defray the expense of his work, while the society is not. I recommend a revision of the society's charter, with the view of eliminating its obsolete and antiquated powers, and vesting it with new and appropriate ones, calculated to encourage home industry and develop the natural resources of the State. While the holding of fairs leads in the direction indicated, it does not go far enough. The society should have power and means to collate information relative to the most approved methods for cultivating the soil and increasing the yield of

crops; for the proper breeding of live-stock and the prevention of contagious diseases among them; for ridding our fruit of infection, etc., and to disseminate this information for the education and benefit of the people engaged in these pursuits. If you should decide it better to repeal the society's charter entirely, and establish instead a State board of agriculture, having the powers mentioned and others of a similar nature, such action would have my hearty approval.

I recommend, in any event, the appropriation of \$5,000 to assist in paying premiums for a fair in 1896, and \$3,000 for the expense of the society or board.

On the 24th of July, 1897, a half century will have elapsed since the pioneers entered this valley. The event is of such importance as to be worthy of fitting commemoration. I recommend that the board of directors of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing society or such other authority as you may constitute, be directed to consider the advisability of holding an intermountain fair in 1897. In case the project should be determined upon, I recommend that no State fair be held in 1896, but that all our energies and funds be reserved for the intermountain fair, which, if properly managed, would prove of great advantage to the new State.

An efficient system of public school education is one of the safeguards to a prosperous commonwealth. No people can for a long time maintain their liberties or a free government where ignorance and incapacity prevail among them. It cannot, therefore, be said too often, nor advocated too frequently before those who hold the right of suffrage and who have the present and future welfare of the State at heart, that our public schools, when conducted with efficiency, are indeed the bulwark of our free institutions.

The Constitution of our State is ample in its fundamental provision for liberal legislation on the subject of popular education. With reasonable care, therefore, in directing, through appropriate enactments, the favorable public sentiment that exists among the people for liberal education, we should build up a public school system not to be excelled anywhere. The Constitution provides for a complete system of public instruction, from the kindergarten to the university. It is hoped that you may find it possible, without burdensome taxation, to provide for the maintenance of a course of study, extending through the entire system, free of charge, for tuition to every child of the State.

Besides adjusting the present school law to the new condition of Statehood, you will need to provide, in some safe and definite way, to secure the benefits of the constitutional provision for the establishment and growth of a perpetual and inviolable school fund. To secure confluence in our system of public schools, there must be behind it the means of permanent and uniform support and efficient administration. The State school fund should ever be an object of zealous care and guarded with deepest concern.

The school lands accruing to the State from the general government for the benefit of schools, as designated in kinds and grades, should be so con-